

Water-activated paper tape

GUMMED KRAFT · PLAIN AND PRINTED · 70 MM

Against the other three ways a pack is closed

FORMAT AGAINST FORMAT

	WATER-ACTIVATED TAPE	CORRUGATED MAILER	BOOK-WRAP MAILER	PAPER-PADDED ENVELOPE
	 Water-activated tape CP-TP	 Corrugated mailer CP-MLR	 Book-wrap mailer CP-BWM	 Paper-padded envelope CP-PPE
Closes by	Starch gum activated with water	A die-cut tuck lock in the board	Two self-adhesive strips	One self-adhesive strip
Consumable to close	The tape itself, 70 mm × 200 m	None	None beyond the strips supplied	None beyond the strip supplied
Equipment	Water dispenser, manual or powered	None	None	None
Strips per carton seam	1 across the centre seam	—	2, one per fold	1 on the flap
Tamper evidence	Yes — the bond tears fibre on removal	No — the lock reopens cleanly	Partial — the strip lifts board	Yes — tear strip, once only
Reopens for a second trip	No — a fresh strip is needed	Yes, on the same die-cut	Yes, on the second strip	Yes, on the second strip
Cold and damp	Bonds into fibre; unaffected once dry	Unaffected — no adhesive in the closure	Adhesive tack falls below 5 °C	Adhesive tack falls below 5 °C
Material stream	Kraft and starch — stays on the carton	One stream, nothing to strip	One stream, nothing to strip	One stream, nothing to strip
Best for	Cartons on a route that needs a seal you can read	Benches where nothing should have to be dispensed	Flat goods where the wrap closes on itself	Light soft goods, one trip out and one back
Recycled content, band	band 70–100	band 70–100	band 70–100	band 40–69
Listings held by every size	CircleFibre 90	CircleFibre 90, ReturnReady	CircleFibre 90, ReturnReady	CircleFibre 90, ReturnReady
Minimum order	12 rolls – 36 rolls	250 – 500	250	500
Lead time from approval	3 days – 15 days	3 days – 5 days	5 days	4 days
Catalogue status	Published catalogue	Published catalogue	Inferred — not yet in the published catalogue	Inferred — not yet in the published catalogue

Three of these four are closures built into the pack and the fourth is a consumable applied to it. That is why the tape is the only one of the four that leaves evidence: a closure that reopens for a return cannot also prove it was never opened. There is a fourth difference that does not show in the rows above. The other three are specified per pack and ordered per pack, so every change of size is a change of line. Tape is one consumable across every carton on the bench, which means the decision to move to it is taken once and does not have to be taken again at each size. That is why a tape change is usually the cheapest material change a pack bench can make, and usually the first one it makes.

Recycled content is banded here on purpose. A band is what compares across formats without implying a precision the formats do not share. The figure by weight, for this family, is on the features and benefits sheet.

Listings are named, not defined. What each mark certifies, and against which test, is on the features and benefits sheet.

CHOOSING BETWEEN THEM

Choose water-activated tape

When the seal has to be readable after the fact. One strip across the centre seam replaces the three a pressure-sensitive tape needs, and the carton recycles with the tape still on it.

Choose the tuck lock

When bench speed matters and tamper evidence does not. There is nothing to dispense, nothing to keep loaded and nothing to fail in the cold.

Choose the book-wrap strips

When the pack is the closure — the wrap folds to the item and the strips hold it there. Two strips, because the second is the return leg.

Choose the envelope strip and tear strip

When the contents are light and soft and the customer should not need scissors. The tear strip opens it once; the second adhesive strip closes it again.

Against the three built-in closures the real question is not which is better but which job is being done. A mailer, a book wrap and a padded envelope close themselves, and two of the three reopen for a return leg. Tape closes something else, once, and leaves a mark when it is broken. If the parcel has to come back, the closure should be part of the pack. If the parcel has to arrive provably unopened, it should not.

Loads, board grades and closures are taken from the CambiumPak product specification. The water-activated tape and the corrugated mailer are ratified catalogue families. Figures for the book-wrap mailer and the paper-padded envelope are inferred from the nearest ratified family member and are not yet in the published catalogue.